

Senate Bill No. 1357

CHAPTER 697

An act to amend Sections 14575 and 14581 of the Public Resources Code, relating to beverage containers, and making an appropriation therefor.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2008. Filed with
Secretary of State September 30, 2008.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1357, Padilla. Beverage containers: processing payments: grants.

(1) The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act requires a distributor of specified beverage containers to pay a redemption payment to the Department of Conservation for each beverage container sold or transferred for deposit in the California Beverage Container Recycling Fund. The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the department to pay refund values, administrative fees, and a reserve for contingencies. The department is authorized to expend the moneys in the fund for administrative costs only upon appropriation by the Legislature. The department is then authorized to make other specified expenditures from the moneys remaining in the fund after the moneys for those purposes have been set aside, including the expenditure of \$1,500,000 annually for grants for beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs.

This bill would additionally authorize the department to expend up to \$20,000,000 from July 1, 2009, to January 1, 2012, inclusive, for either grants for beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs or focused, regional community beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs that meet specified requirements, thereby making an appropriation. The bill would require a grant recipient to submit a report to the department and would require the department to publish an evaluation of grants made pursuant to these provisions, including a summary of those reports.

(2) Existing law requires the department to calculate a processing fee and a processing payment for each beverage container with a specified scrap value. The processing fees are required to be paid by beverage manufacturers to the department and are deposited in the fund. The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the department to pay, among other things, processing payments to processors. The department is required to calculate processing payments by conducting a survey every 2nd year to determine the actual recycling costs for certified recycling centers.

This bill would require the department, on and after January 1, 2010, to use the most recently published, measured actual costs of recycling for a beverage container, if the department determines the number of beverage containers of a material type returned for recycling is less than 5% of the

total number of beverage containers returned for recycling, for all material types. The bill would also require the department to adjust the costs of recycling by a material type every 2nd year by the percentage change in the most recently measured cost of recycling high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic beverage containers.

(3) The bill would make an appropriation by revising the requirements for, and increasing the amounts of, the processing payments paid by the department from the continuously appropriated fund.

(4) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Appropriation: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 14575 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

14575. (a) If any type of empty beverage container with a refund value established pursuant to Section 14560 has a scrap value less than the cost of recycling, the department shall, on January 1, 2000, and on or before January 1 annually thereafter, establish a processing fee and a processing payment for the container by the type of the material of the container.

(b) The processing payment shall be at least equal to the difference between the scrap value offered to a statistically significant sample of recyclers by willing purchasers, and except for the initial calculation made pursuant to subdivision (d), the sum of both of the following:

(1) The actual cost for certified recycling centers, excluding centers receiving a handling fee, of receiving, handling, storing, transporting, and maintaining equipment for each container sold for recycling or, only if the container is not recyclable, the actual cost of disposal, calculated pursuant to subdivision (c). The department shall determine the statewide weighted average cost to recycle each beverage container type, which shall serve as the actual recycling costs for purposes of paragraph (2) of subdivision (c), by conducting a survey of the costs of a statistically significant sample of certified recycling centers, excluding those recycling centers receiving a handling fee, for receiving, handling, storing, transporting, and maintaining equipment.

(2) A reasonable financial return for recycling centers.

(c) The department shall base the processing payment pursuant to this section upon all of the following:

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), for calculating processing payments that will be in effect on and after January 1, 2004, the department shall determine the actual costs for certified recycling centers, every second year, pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b). The department shall

adjust the recycling costs annually to reflect changes in the cost of living, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor or a successor agency of the United States government.

(2) On and after January 1, 2010, the department shall use the most recently published, measured actual costs of recycling for a specific beverage material type if the department determines the number of beverage containers for that material type that is returned for recycling pursuant to Section 14551, based on the most recently published calendar year number of beverage containers returned for recycling, is less than 5 percent of the total number of beverage containers returned for recycling for all material types. The department shall determine the actual recycling cost to be used for calculating processing payments for those beverage containers in the following manner:

(A) The department shall adjust the costs of recycling that material type every second year by the percentage change in the most recently measured cost of recycling HDPE plastic beverage containers, as determined by the department. The department shall use the percentage change in costs of recycling HDPE plastic beverage containers for this purpose, even if HDPE plastic beverage containers are less than 5 percent of the total volume of returned beverage containers.

(B) The department shall adjust the recycling costs annually for that material type to reflect changes in the cost of living, as measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor or a successor agency of the United States government.

(d) Except as specified in subdivision (e), the actual processing fee paid by a beverage manufacturer shall equal 65 percent of the processing payment calculated pursuant to subdivision (b).

(e) The department, consistent with Section 14581 and subject to the availability of funds, shall reduce the processing fee paid by beverage manufacturers by expending funds in each material processing fee account, in the following manner:

(1) On January 1, 2005, and annually thereafter, the processing fee shall equal the following amounts:

(A) Ten percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 75 percent.

(B) Eleven percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 65 percent, but less than 75 percent.

(C) Twelve percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 60 percent, but less than 65 percent.

(D) Thirteen percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 55 percent, but less than 60 percent.

(E) Fourteen percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 50 percent, but less than 55 percent.

(F) Fifteen percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 45 percent, but less than 50 percent.

(G) Eighteen percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 40 percent, but less than 45 percent.

(H) Twenty percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate equal to or greater than 30 percent, but less than 40 percent.

(I) Sixty-five percent of the processing payment for a container type with a recycling rate less than 30 percent.

(2) The department shall calculate the recycling rate for purposes of paragraph (1) based on the 12-month period ending on June 30 that directly precedes the date of the January 1 processing fee determination.

(f) Not more than once every three months, the department may make an adjustment in the amount of the processing payment established pursuant to this section notwithstanding any change in the amount of the processing fee established pursuant to this section, for any beverage container, if the department makes the following determinations:

(1) The statewide scrap value paid by processors for the material type for the most recent available 12-month period directly preceding the quarter in which the processing payment is to be adjusted is 5 percent more or 5 percent less than the average scrap value used as the basis for the processing payment currently in effect.

(2) Funds are available in the processing fee account for the material type.

(3) Adjusting the processing payment is necessary to further the objectives of this division.

(g) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), every beverage manufacturer shall pay to the department the applicable processing fee for each container sold or transferred to a distributor or dealer within 40 days of the sale in the form and in the manner which the department may prescribe.

(2) (A) Notwithstanding Section 14506, with respect to the payment of processing fees for beer and other malt beverages manufactured outside the state, the beverage manufacturer shall be deemed to be the person or entity named on the certificate of compliance issued pursuant to Section 23671 of the Business and Professions Code. If the department is unable to collect the processing fee from the person or entity named on the certificate of compliance, the department shall give written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, to that person or entity. The notice shall state that the processing fee shall be remitted in full within 30 days of issuance of the notice or the person or entity shall not be permitted to offer that beverage brand for sale within the state. If the person or entity fails to remit the processing fee within 30 days of issuance of the notice, the department shall notify the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control that the certificate holder has failed to comply, and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control shall prohibit the offering for sale of that beverage brand within the state.

(B) The department shall enter into a contract with the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, pursuant to Section 14536.5, concerning the implementation of this paragraph, which shall include a provision reimbursing the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for its costs incurred in implementing this paragraph.

(3) (A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a beverage manufacturer displays a pattern of operation in compliance with this division and the regulations adopted pursuant to this division, to the satisfaction of the department, the beverage manufacturer may make a single annual payment of processing fees, if the beverage manufacturer meets either of the following conditions:

(i) If the redemption payment and refund value is not increased pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 14560, the beverage manufacturer's projected processing fees for a calendar year total less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(ii) If the redemption payment and refund value is increased pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 14560, the beverage manufacturer's projected processing fees for a calendar year total less than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000).

(B) An annual processing fee payment made pursuant to this paragraph is due and payable on or before February 1 for every beverage container sold or transferred by the beverage manufacturer to a distributor or dealer in the previous calendar year.

(C) A beverage manufacturer shall notify the department of its intent to make an annual processing fee payment pursuant to this paragraph on or before January 31 of the calendar year for which the payment will be due.

(4) The department shall pay the processing payments on redeemed containers to processors, in the same manner as it pays refund values pursuant to Sections 14573 and 14573.5. The processor shall pay the recycling center the entire processing payment representing the actual costs and financial return incurred by the recycling center, as specified in subdivision (b).

(h) When assessing processing fees pursuant to subdivision (a), the department shall assess the processing fee on each container sold, as provided in subdivisions (d) and (e), by the type of material of the container, assuming that every container sold will be redeemed for recycling, whether or not the container is actually recycled.

(i) The container manufacturer, or a designated agent, shall pay to, or credit, the account of the beverage manufacturer in an amount equal to the processing fee.

(j) If, at the end of any calendar year for which glass recycling rates equal or exceed 45 percent and sufficient surplus funds remain in the glass processing fee account to make the reduction pursuant to this subdivision or if, at the end of any calendar year for which PET recycling rates equal or exceed 45 percent and sufficient surplus funds remain in the PET processing fee account to make the reduction pursuant to this subdivision, the department shall use these surplus funds in the respective processing fee accounts in the following calendar year to reduce the amount of the processing fee that would otherwise be due from glass or PET beverage manufacturers pursuant to this subdivision.

(1) The department shall reduce the glass or PET processing fee amount pursuant to this subdivision in addition to any reduction for which the glass or PET beverage container qualifies under subdivision (e).

(2) The department shall determine the processing fee reduction by dividing two million dollars (\$2,000,000) from each processing fee account by an estimate of the number of containers sold or transferred to a distributor during the previous calendar year, based upon the latest available data.

SEC. 2. Section 14581 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

14581. (a) Subject to the availability of funds, and pursuant to subdivision (c), the department shall expend the moneys set aside in the fund, pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 14580, for the purposes of this section:

(1) (A) On and after July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2006, inclusive, up to thirty-one million dollars (\$31,000,000) may be expended for that fiscal year for the payment of handling fees pursuant to Section 14585.

(B) On and after July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2007, inclusive, up to thirty-three million dollars (\$33,000,000) may be expended for that fiscal year for the payment of handling fees pursuant to Section 14585.

(C) On and after July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008, inclusive, up to thirty-five million dollars (\$35,000,000) may be expended for that fiscal year for the payment of handling fees pursuant to Section 14585.

(D) For each fiscal year commencing July 1, 2008, the department may expend the amount necessary to make the required handling fee payment pursuant to Section 14585.

(2) Fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) shall be expended annually for payments for curbside programs and neighborhood dropoff programs pursuant to Section 14549.6.

(3) (A) Fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000), plus the proportional share of the cost-of-living adjustment, as provided in subdivision (b), shall be expended annually in the form of grants for beverage container litter reduction programs and recycling programs issued to either of the following:

(i) Certified community conservation corps that were in existence on September 30, 1999, or that are formed subsequent to that date, that are designated by a city or a city and county to perform litter abatement, recycling, and related activities, if the city or the city and county has a population, as determined by the most recent census, of more than 250,000 persons.

(ii) Community conservation corps that are designated by a county to perform litter abatement, recycling, and related activities, and are certified by the California Conservation Corps as having operated for a minimum of two years and as meeting all other criteria of Section 14507.5.

(B) Any grants provided pursuant to this paragraph shall not comprise more than 75 percent of the annual budget of a community conservation corps.

(4) (A) On or after July 1, 2007, until June 30, 2008, for only that fiscal year, up to twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) may be expended in the

form of competitive grants issued to community conservation corps that are designated by a city or county, and that meet all of the following criteria:

(i) Are certified by the California Conservation Corps as having operated for a minimum of two years.

(ii) Meet all other requirements under Section 14507.5.

(B) The department shall prepare and adopt criteria and procedures for evaluating grant applications on a competitive basis. Eligible activities for the use of these funds shall include developing new projects, or enhancing or assisting existing projects, to increase beverage container recycling and increasing the quality of recycled material at the following locations:

(i) Multifamily dwellings.

(ii) Schools.

(iii) Commercial, state, and local government buildings.

(iv) Bars, restaurants, hotels, and lodging establishments, and entertainment venues.

(v) Parks and beaches.

(C) Any grants provided pursuant to this paragraph shall not comprise more than 75 percent of the annual budget of a community conservation corps.

(D) Any grants provided pursuant to this paragraph shall support one-time capital improvement projects and shall not be used to support ongoing staff activities.

(E) Any grant funds appropriated pursuant to this paragraph that have not been awarded to a grantee prior to the end of the 2007–08 fiscal year shall revert to the fund.

(5) (A) Ten million five hundred thousand dollars (\$10,500,000) may be expended annually for payments of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to cities and ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for payments to counties for beverage container recycling and litter cleanup activities, or the department may calculate the payments to counties and cities on a per capita basis, and may pay whichever amount is greater, for those activities.

(B) Eligible activities for the use of these funds may include, but are not necessarily limited to, support for new or existing curbside recycling programs, neighborhood dropoff recycling programs, public education-promoting beverage container recycling, litter prevention, and cleanup, cooperative regional efforts among two or more cities or counties, or both, or other beverage container recycling programs.

(C) These funds may not be used for activities unrelated to beverage container recycling or litter reduction.

(D) To receive these funds, a city, county, or city and county shall fill out and return a funding request form to the Department of Conservation. The form shall specify the beverage container recycling or litter reduction activities for which the funds will be used.

(E) The Department of Conservation shall annually prepare and distribute a funding request form to each city, county, or city and county. The form shall specify the amount of beverage container recycling and litter cleanup funds for which the jurisdiction is eligible. The form shall not exceed one

double-sided page in length, and may be submitted electronically. If a city, county, or city and county does not return the funding request form within 90 days of receipt of the form from the department, the city, county, or city and county is not eligible to receive the funds for that funding cycle.

(F) For the purposes of this paragraph, per capita population shall be based on the population of the incorporated area of a city or city and county and the unincorporated area of a county. The department may withhold payment to any city, county, or city and county that has prohibited the siting of a supermarket site, caused a supermarket site to close its business, or adopted a land use policy that restricts or prohibits the siting of a supermarket site within its jurisdiction.

(6) One million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) may be expended annually in the form of grants for beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs.

(7) (A) The department shall expend the amount necessary to pay the processing payment and supplemental processing payment established pursuant to Sections 14575 and 14575.5 and pay processing fee rebates pursuant to Section 14575.2. The department shall establish separate processing fee accounts in the fund for each beverage container material type for which a processing payment and processing fee are calculated pursuant to Section 14575, or for which a processing payment is calculated pursuant to Section 14575 and a voluntary artificial scrap value is calculated pursuant to Section 14575.1, into which account shall be deposited all of the following:

(i) All amounts paid as processing fees for each beverage container material type pursuant to Section 14575.

(ii) Funds equal to the difference between the amount in clause (i) and the amount of the processing payments established in subdivision (b) of Section 14575, and adjusted pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of, and subdivision (f) of, Section 14575, to reduce the processing fee to the level provided in subdivision (f) of Section 14575, or to reflect the agreement by a willing purchaser to pay a voluntary artificial scrap value pursuant to Section 14575.1.

(iii) Funds equal to an amount sufficient to pay the total amount of the supplemental processing payments established pursuant to Section 14575.5.

(B) Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, the moneys in each processing fee account are hereby continuously appropriated to the department for expenditure without regard to fiscal years, for purposes of making processing payments and supplemental processing payments, and reducing processing fees, pursuant to Sections 14575 and 14575.5, and paying processing fee rebates pursuant to Section 14575.2.

(8) Up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) may be annually expended by the department for the purposes of undertaking a statewide public education and information campaign aimed at promoting increased recycling of beverage containers.

(9) Until January 1, 2008, the department may expend up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) for the purposes of undertaking a statewide public

education and information campaign aimed at promoting increased recycling of beverage containers that meets both of the following requirements:

(A) The public education and information campaign is multimedia and includes print, radio, and television.

(B) The public education and information campaign is multilingual.

(10) Up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) may be expended annually by the department for quality incentive payments for empty beverage containers pursuant to Section 14549.1.

(11) Up to twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) may be expended annually by the department, until January 1, 2012, to issue grants for recycling market development and expansion-related activities aimed at increasing the recycling of beverage containers, including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) Research and development of collecting, sorting, processing, cleaning, or otherwise upgrading the market value of recycled beverage containers.

(B) Identification, development, and expansion of markets for recycled beverage containers.

(C) Research and development for products manufactured using recycled beverage containers.

(D) Research and development to provide high-quality materials that are substantially free of contamination.

(E) Payments to California manufacturers who recycle beverage containers that are marked by resin type identification code “3,” “4,” “5,” “6,” or “7,” pursuant to Section 18015.

(12) Up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) may be transferred on a one-time basis by the department to the Recycling Infrastructure Loan Guarantee Account, for expenditure pursuant to Section 14582.

(13) Up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) may be expended annually by the department for the payment of recycling incentive payments pursuant to Section 14549.7 until payments for eligible beverage containers redeemed or collected for recycling on or before December 31, 2009, have been paid.

(14) Up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) may be expended annually by the department for market development payments for empty plastic beverage containers pursuant to Section 14549.2, until January 1, 2012.

(15) Up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) may be expended, by the department, on a one-time basis beginning on January 1, 2007, in coordination with the Department of Parks and Recreation for the purposes of installing source separated beverage container recycling receptacles at each of the state parks, starting with those parks that have the highest day use.

(16) Up to five million dollars (\$5,000,000) may be expended, from January 1, 2007, to January 1, 2008, to provide grants to local governments or nonprofit agencies to place multifamily housing source separated beverage container recycling receptacles in low-income communities.

(17) (A) Up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) may be expended from January 1, 2008, to January 1, 2009, to provide grants to place source separated beverage container recycling receptacles in multifamily housing.

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 14580, the amount of one hundred ninety-eight thousand dollars (\$198,000) may be expended by the department from the fund, on a one-time basis, for the administrative costs of implementing the grant program established by subparagraph (A).

(18) (A) Up to twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) may be expended from July 1, 2009, to January 1, 2012, inclusive, for either of the following:

(i) Grants for beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs that emphasize the greatest and most effective collection of beverage containers per dollar spent to ensure the program's performance and accountability.

(ii) Focused, regional community beverage container recycling and litter reduction programs that enable the department to more effectively organize the amount and type of resources needed for regional and statewide efforts to increase recycling.

(B) The department shall require, as a condition of receiving grant funds pursuant to subparagraph (A), each grant recipient to submit a final report including, but not limited to, the grant recipient's reported volumes of beverage containers recycled, where applicable.

(C) On or before July 1, 2014, the department shall publish an evaluation of all grants made pursuant to paragraph (A). At a minimum, the evaluation shall summarize each final report submitted by each grantee pursuant to subparagraph (B) and assess whether the grantee adequately met the scope and objectives outlined in the grant agreement.

(b) The fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) that is set aside pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) is a base amount that the department shall adjust annually to reflect any increases or decreases in the cost of living, as measured by the Department of Labor, or a successor agency, of the federal government.

(c) (1) The department shall review all funds on a quarterly basis to ensure that there are adequate funds to make the payments specified in this section and the processing fee reductions required pursuant to Section 14575.

(2) If the department determines, pursuant to a review made pursuant to paragraph (1), that there may be inadequate funds to pay the payments required by this section and the processing fee reductions required pursuant to Section 14575, the department shall immediately notify the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature regarding the inadequacy.

(3) On or before 180 days after the notice is sent pursuant to paragraph (2), the department may reduce or eliminate expenditures, or both, from the funds as necessary, according to the procedure set forth in subdivision (d).

(d) If the department determines that there are insufficient funds to make the payments specified pursuant to this section and Section 14575, the department shall reduce all payments proportionally.

(e) Prior to making an expenditure pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (a), the department shall convene an advisory committee consisting of representatives of the beverage industry, beverage container manufacturers, environmental organizations, the recycling industry, nonprofit organizations, and retailers to advise the department on the most

cost-effective and efficient method of the expenditure of the funds for that education and information campaign.

(f) After setting aside money for the expenditures required pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) and Section 14580, the department may, on and after January 1, 2007, but not after July 1, 2007, expend remaining moneys in the fund to pay a refund value in an amount greater than the refund value established pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 14560.

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